

Nancy Rumrill, EPA
Lahaina Waste Water Facility Permit
Sept 18, 2008

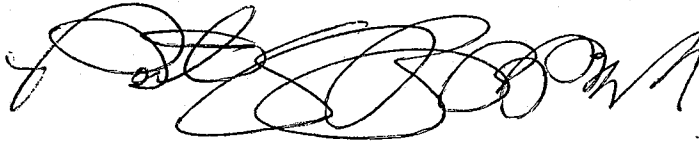
We all know Maui is summertime all year long. With the heat of summer comes dry grasses and weeds in empty fields that were once green with sugar cane.

The enclosed news articles show the recent fires on Maui - all from dry brush fires.

Let's reuse the treated waste water to prevent fires by irrigating the thousands of acres of empty ag lands in West Maui owned by the former sugar company, AmFac Corp.

Please hold a public meeting in West Maui.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat S. Brown', with a stylized, cursive script.

Pat S. Brown
1116 Ainakea Pl.
Lahaina HI 9761

Stubborn Fire Homes in Maui Meadows are threatened — again

By MELISSA TANJI, Staff Writer

POSTED: August 28, 2008

County spokeswoman Mahina Martin said the fire Wednesday resulted from a flare-up in the area burned by a wildfire that broke out Saturday afternoon in the Keonekai area below Piilani Highway. The Keonekai fire, spread by gusty afternoon winds, moved up the slopes next to Maui Meadows, scorching an estimated 155 acres of grass and kiawe brush.

While the Keonekai wildfire was contained by Sunday, hot spots continued to smolder through Tuesday as fire personnel monitored the burn, she said.

Police said the Keonekai fire was accidentally started by teenagers who had been playing with a lighter in the open field behind the homes off Keonekai Road and Kauhale Street. With tinder-dry brush and winds blowing up to 20 mph Saturday afternoon, the fire spread through the field, damaging several firefighters' vehicles parked near the Wailea Fire Station while wind-blown embers scorched a home on Puu Holai Street.

An unrelated brush fire on Monday afternoon burned about 5 acres and damaged equipment and landscaping plants at a Betsill Brothers Construction site.

The rekindled Maui Meadows wildfire was reported at about 3 p.m. when the onshore winds in South Maui were swirling up the slopes. As the flames spread up the slopes, police closed Mapu Place where firetrucks were moving in and out of Maui Meadows.

Martin said at least seven fire engine companies, along with tankers, the wild-land unit and the department's Air One helicopter were involved in battling the fire. Goodfellow Brothers provided tankers and heavy equipment, while Valley Isle Equipment Rental sent a water tanker to spray the flames.

While the firefighters and tankers were able to block the threat to Maui Meadows homes, Martin said the crews were still battling to contain the blaze. It was estimated to have burned 500 acres as it continued up the slopes with a line of smoke marking its spread as the sun set.

Firefighter crews and Air One - dipping water out of home swimming pools - were attempting to head it off while other firefighters continued to mop up near Maui Meadows early Wednesday evening.

* Maui News writer Melissa Tanji can be reached at mtanji@mauinews.com.

Fire threatens homes

POSTED: September 13, 2008

The Maui News / AMANDA COWAN

WAILUKU - A brush fire between two homes in the Wailuku Country Estates on Friday afternoon alarmed residents when they saw flames towering over rooftops while the fire blazed precariously close to the residences.

The fire broke out at around 1 p.m. Friday in the trees between two residences on Maika Street and near Hewahewa Drive in the Puuohala Camp. The Air One helicopter made numerous water drops on the burn area, which nearby residents said was the biggest factor in keeping the fire from spreading.

"The flames were so high and higher than the house. Oh my goodness," Flores said as she watched fire crews spraying hot spots.

"The fire was over the homes, easy," said neighbor Mason Gomes as he and other neighbors watched the Air One helicopter douse the fire.

Gomes said the flames soared 30 to 40 feet high - as high as the pine trees in the area of Maika Street, one of the primary roadways through the agricultural subdivision.

His wife, Tammy, said they were first alerted to the fire when they saw black smoke, then they noticed the fire downhill from their home.

"All we saw was the macadamia nut trees go up in flames," she said.